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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: ITO, Makoto Conf.:
Int'l. Appl. No.: PCT/JP00/01802
Appl. No.: New Group:
Filed: September 26, 2001 Examiner:
For: CERAMIDASE GENE

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**BOX PATENT APPLICATION**

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

September 26, 2001

Sir:

The following Preliminary Amendments and Remarks are respectfully submitted in connection with the above-identified application.

AMENDMENTSIN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please amend the specification as follows:

Before line 1, insert --This application is the national phase under 35 U.S.C. § 371 of PCT International Application No. PCT/JP00/01802 which has an International filing date of March 24, 2000, which designated the United States of America and was not published in English.--